

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 674

By Carr

A RESOLUTION to commend Dr. Jerry W. Williams for his honorable and astute service to the people of Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those estimable public servants who have dedicated themselves to improving the quality of life for their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Jerry W. Williams is one such estimable person who evinces the greatest integrity and probity in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Williams has distinguished himself as a public-spirited citizen of the highest order and as an exceptional asset to his community; and

WHEREAS, Jerry Williams came to Middle Tennessee State University (MTSU) in 1966 as the Director of the Horse Science Program, where he soon established himself as a popular and effective Professor of Animal Science; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Williams earned his bachelor's and master's degrees from Texas A&M University, and his Ph.D. from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville, during which time he did research in horse nutrition using animals from the Oak Ridge National Laboratory; and

WHEREAS, Jerry Williams served with acumen and alacrity as a member of the MTSU faculty for thirty-seven years, during which time there was a period of unprecedented expansion of student enrollment for the Department of Agribusiness and Agriscience; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Williams's role in this expansion was exemplified by his role in the development and growth of the Horse Science Program and the area of animal science; and

WHEREAS, Jerry Williams helped update all existing horse science courses, developed six new courses, and wrote two study guides for students in horse management and training and basic horse care; and

WHEREAS, he taught seventeen different subjects and served as faculty advisor to all horse science majors, and he was also the faculty advisor to the student Horseman's Association; and

WHEREAS, deeply involved in his community and profession, Dr. Williams served on the Faculty Senate, the MTSU Parking Committee, and the MTSU Animal Welfare Committee; and

WHEREAS, he also assisted in the planning and design of the new Horse Science Center located at the Tennessee Miller Coliseum facility, was a member of the American Society of Animal Science and Equine Nutrition and Physiology Society, and was co-founder of and co-advisor to the Beta Theta Chapter of the Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity; and

WHEREAS, thanks in large part to the astute leadership and guidance Dr. Williams offered during his time at MTSU, several of his former students now serve critical roles in the field of agriculture; and

WHEREAS, Jerry Williams has been an active breeder and exhibitor of Arabian horses for many years, and he has served as a member and officer of the Middle Tennessee Arabian Horse Association, the Tennessee Arabian Horsemen's Association, and member of the Arabian Horse Association of America; and

WHEREAS, his numerous accomplishments aside, Dr. Williams is also deeply devoted to his family and he always endeavors to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, he is perhaps most proud of the love and companionship he shares with his wife, Glenda, who served in the MTSU Business Office for several years and continues to work for the university part time during fall and spring registration; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Williams's remarkable success as a public servant and civic leader is directly attributable to his reliance on the time-honored values of hard work and common sense and his uncommon ability to work well with people from all walks of life; and

WHEREAS, Jerry Williams is an extremely giving person who often reaches out with compassion to people whom life has treated unkindly, and he epitomizes the ideal of the consummate professional, dedicated public servant, and reliable friend and neighbor; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Williams is wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the "Volunteer State," and he should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby commend Dr. Jerry W. Williams for his honorable and astute service to the good people of Tennessee, salute his unswerving commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction, and extend to him our best wishes for every continued success and much happiness in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.